

Ag Report

In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of
Agriculture and Commerce

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Message from the State Statistician

On August 11, our agency will make the Department's first forecast of crop production that is based on actual counts of plants and fruit that are growing now. We call these types of surveys Objective Yield Surveys. They are only conducted in states that are major producers of each crop.

In Mississippi, we are involved in the Cotton Objective Yield Survey. We began fieldwork about two weeks ago, and we will make our estimate today. There are about 320 plots scattered over Mississippi and almost 3,000 scattered over the 13 states that produce cotton.

Within each plot we count number of plants, number of opened bolls, number of closed bolls greater than one inch in diameter, number of closed bolls less than one inch diameter, number of blooms, and number of squares. Open bolls are picked and the cotton is sent to a laboratory

for drying and weighing. These counts and weights are plugged into regression models which predict the yield we expect from this year's crop. Of course, the weather during the rest of the season will have a great impact on yield, so we return to the sample plots every month until harvest. Each month we will publish a new estimate of the 2000 cotton crop until it is all out of the field.

The sample units are very small. In fact, all sample units throughout the 13 cotton states will total only about 5.5 acres! Each sample unit is composed of two rows of cotton. Each row contains a 10 foot section in which plants are counted and open bolls are harvested. The first row also contains a three foot section in which plants, squares, blooms and bolls are counted.

Pay close attention to Agricultural news shows on the 12th of each month this fall. They will report the Department's estimates of U.S. cotton production, and you will have some insight into how those estimates were produced.

Farm Real Estate: Average Value per Acre, Selected States, January 1, 1996-00

Region and State	Average Value per Acre as of January 1				
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Alabama	1,320	1,360	1,440	1,520	1,680
Arkansas	1,010	1,070	1,150	1,220	1,250
Florida	2,150	2,200	2,240	2,260	2,400
Georgia	1,360	1,430	1,510	1,630	1,800
Kentucky	1,300	1,350	1,450	1,530	1,590
Louisiana	1,180	1,190	1,210	1,210	1,250
Mississippi	917	980	1,050	1,100	1,180
Missouri	950	1,010	1,070	1,130	1,190
Tennessee	1,530	1,650	1,810	1,950	2,100
Texas	540	554	593	610	630
48 States	887	926	974	1,020	1,050

Cottonseed: Production, Disposition and Value, Mississippi

Year	Production ¹	Sales to Oil Mills	Other	Season Average Price	Value of Production	Value of Sales to Oil Mills
		1,000 Tons		Dollars per Ton	1,000 Dollars	
1989	601	580	21	99.00	59,499	57,420
1990	732	716	16	110.00	80,520	78,760
1991	876	809	67	60.00	52,560	48,540
1992	834	776	58	82.00	68,388	63,632
1993	631	583	48	95.50	60,261	55,677
1994	842	795	47	93.00	78,306	73,935
1995	727	672	55	103.00	74,881	69,216
1996	735	681	54	119.00	87,465	81,039
1997	704	660	44	106.00	74,624	69,960
1998	561	543	18	116.00	65,076	62,988
1999 ²	667	612	55	72.50	48,358	44,370

¹ Computed from lint production.² Preliminary.

Cotton: Running Bales Ginned Prior to Specified Dates, Mississippi

Year	Bales Ginned Prior to:					
	Sep. 15	Oct. 1	Oct. 15	Nov. 1	Nov. 15	Dec. 1
1989	229	25,064	308,158	858,531	1,231,633	1,447,715
1990	142,906	607,938	1,084,606	1,558,645	1,741,701	1,791,160
1991	32,600	402,650	947,200	1,516,450	1,831,150	2,095,250
1992	12,600	221,000	728,100	1,369,900	1,747,750	1,966,550
1993	5,800	175,950	661,500	1,106,400	1,398,650	1,486,750
1994	11,600	326,750	822,750	1,284,800	1,743,450	2,013,900
1995	84,150	564,000	1,083,150	1,562,350	1,727,400	1,794,800
1996	77,300	480,500	1,027,450	1,562,650	1,754,500	1,803,000
1997	900	86,800	555,950	1,138,050	1,504,650	1,713,700
1998	42,900	409,700	863,900	1,262,150	1,370,150	1,391,400
1999	71,200	470,900	924,100	1,417,550	1,607,750	1,672,050
Year	Bales Ginned Prior to:				Total Running Bales Ginned	
	Dec. 15	Jan. 1	Jan. 15	Feb. 1		
1989	1,506,393	1,510,170	1,512,466	1,514,686	1,514,987	
1990	1,797,910	1,798,678	1,798,789	1,798,872	1,799,242	
1991	2,180,050	2,206,400	2,213,450	2,213,850	2,215,800	
1992	2,047,650	2,066,700	2,068,750	2,070,250	2,074,350	
1993	1,505,450	1,507,600	1,508,500	1,508,800	1,510,050	
1994	2,063,750	2,075,850	2,078,950	2,080,450	2,083,350	
1995	1,802,500	1,803,250	1,803,600	1,803,600	1,806,850	
1996	1,813,600	1,815,150	1,815,900	1,816,100	1,819,250	
1997	1,757,100	1,763,100	1,764,450	1,765,300	1,766,450	
1998	1,393,000	1,400,150	1,400,150	1,400,900	1,400,900	
1999	1,678,700	1,680,150	1,680,150	1,680,150	1,680,400	

¹ In Mississippi, a running bale was 490.4 pounds in 1999.

Number of Farm Operators and Managers by Age Group, US, 1970-1998

Age Group										
Year	Total	<20	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60-64	65-Older	Median Age
Thousands										Years
1970	1,753	14	43	191	281	414	219	229	364	53.4
1971	1,666	14	50	190	266	389	220	205	332	53.0
1972	1,688	16	57	191	275	386	218	225	321	52.9
1973	1,664	17	60	184	266	392	218	222	301	52.8
1974	1,643	21	69	196	262	391	215	194	295	52.0
1975	1,593	22	71	223	259	380	201	176	261	50.8
1976	1,514	18	79	218	242	361	189	155	251	50.5
1977	1,459	15	83	217	238	317	198	145	247	50.6
1978	1,480	18	83	231	247	305	183	162	251	50.3
1979	1,446	18	83	246	238	307	169	169	216	49.5
1980	1,485	20	78	245	260	313	176	174	218	49.5
1981	1,485	21	81	252	266	298	181	163	223	49.1
1982	1,452	18	82	274	256	280	163	158	221	48.4
1983	1,450	17	79	277	274	276	159	155	213	47.8
1984	1,442	19	81	274	272	281	158	154	202	47.7
1985	1,359	15	62	256	262	272	154	151	186	48.1
1986	1,337	12	55	255	250	258	151	140	216	48.7
1987	1,317	11	53	242	252	252	142	153	213	49.0
1988	1,286	14	47	234	259	244	150	122	215	48.6
1989	1,269	16	41	236	269	231	132	136	206	48.1
1990	1,211	14	40	229	262	221	117	125	203	47.7
1991	1,228	11	42	210	285	233	130	140	178	47.8
1992	1,215	10	43	187	272	235	124	136	207	49.0
1993	1,156	9	32	184	270	225	119	114	203	48.7
1994 *	1,453	44	43	199	320	302	265**	**	279	49.0
1995 *	1,446	46	35	191	341	288	140	124	281	48.8
1996 *	1,314	10	28	178	309	275	128	118	267	49.8
1997 *	1,317	15	31	173	304	273	139	126	255	50.0
1998 *	1,187	11	25	147	270	277	126	115	216	50.1

Note: Data are annual averages of monthly statistics, based on number of persons whose sole or principal occupation (measured by time worked) was farm operator or farm manager.

* Data for 1994 and later years are not comparable with prior years due to use of 1990 census of population controls and changed procedures that yielded many more operators, especially female and teenaged farm operators.

** In 1994, data were reported only for 55-59 and 60-64 age groups combined.

Source: ERS analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

Number of Farms by Sales Class, 1992 and 1997

Value of Sales	Number of Farms, 1992	Number of Farms, 1997	Change, 1992-97
Under \$10,000	906,517	962,966	56,449
\$10,000-\$39,999	436,386	391,236	-45,150
\$40,000-\$99,999	248,532	211,669	-36,863
\$100,000-\$249,999	208,405	189,417	-18,988
\$250,000-\$499,999	78,546	87,777	9,231
\$500,000-\$999,999	31,024	42,860	11,836
\$1 Million or more	15,890	25,934	10,044

Source ERS analysis of 1997 Census of Agriculture.

Use of Contracting by Type of Farm, US, 1998

Item	Unit	Small Family Farms ¹	Large Family Farms ²	Nonfamily Farms ³	All
Farms:					
All Farms	Number	1,869,201	153,212	42,296	2,064,709
All Farms	Percent	90.5	7.4	2.0	100.0
Farms with Contracts	Percent	61.0	34.1	4.9	100.0
Value of Production:					
Total	Mil. Dollars	63,205	102,650	25,995	191,851
Contract Value	Mil. Dollars	12,911	44,035	10,144 *	67,090
Production Contracts	Mil. Dollars	4,175 *	17,624	5,413 *	27,212
Marketing Contracts	Mil. Dollars	8,736	26,410	4,731	39,878
Share of Contract Value	Percent	19.2	65.6	15.1	100.0
Share of Farms Types with:					
Contracts	Percent	7.8	53.0	27.5	11.5
Production Contracts	Percent	1.3	19.2	2.6	2.6
Marketing Contracts	Percent	6.7	37.1	26.3	9.4
Value of Production Under Contract	Percent	20.4	42.9	39.0	35.0

Note: Coefficients of variation (C.V.'s) of estimates are less than 25 percent unless indicated otherwise. The C.V. is computed by dividing the estimate's standard error by the estimate itself and multiplying by 100. Lower C.V.'s indicate more reliable estimates.

* C.V. is greater than 25 and less than or equal to 50.

¹ Family farms with gross sales under \$250,000.

² Family farms with gross sales \$250,000 or more.

³ Cooperatives, non-family corporations, and farms with hired managers.

Source: 1998 USDA Agricultural Resource Management Study.

Share of Contract Value of Production,
Selected Commodities, US, 1998

Commodity	Commodity Share of All Contract Production	Share of Commodity Produced Under Contract
Percent		
Corn	3.7	13.1
Soybean	3.2	12.2
Cotton	3.0	50.6
Vegetables	7.5	45.4
Fruit	8.7	56.7
Cattle	*11.7	*25.3
Hogs	5.5	42.9
Poultry	24.3	94.9
Dairy ¹	22.7	54.8
All Other Commodities	9.7	14.4
All Commodities	100.0	35.0

Note: Coefficients of variation (C.V.'s) of estimates are less than 25 percent unless indicated otherwise. The C.V. is computed by dividing the estimate's standard error by the estimate and multiplying by 100. Lower C.V.'s indicate more reliable estimates.

* C.V. is greater than 25 and less than or equal to 50.

¹ Fluid milk is typically produced under a marketing order. However, because neither price nor quantity is specified before sale, farmers may or may not consider this a "contract."

Source: 1998 USDA Agricultural Resource Management Study.

**Milk Cows and Production: Selected States and United States,
Revised January-March, 1999-2000**

State	Jan-Mar Milk Cows		Jan-Mar Milk Production		Change from 1999
	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
Alabama	27	26	106	103	-2.8
Arkansas	42	42	135	141	4.4
California	1,448	1,496	7,296	8,005	9.7
Georgia	90	88	400	402	0.5
Idaho	306	333	1,474	1,683	14.2
Kentucky	135	131	424	448	5.7
Louisiana	62	61	209	212	1.4
Michigan	293	295	1,315	1,397	6.2
Minnesota	545	540	2,420	2,481	2.5
Mississippi	39	36	160	162	1.3
New York	701	699	2,967	3,018	1.7
Pennsylvania	615	617	2,717	2,849	4.9
Tennessee	100	96	379	380	0.3
Texas	341	350	1,547	1,614	4.3
Wisconsin	1,367	1,356	5,713	5,838	2.2
US	9,128	9,187	40,505	42,593	5.2

**Milk Cows and Production: Selected States and United States,
Preliminary April-June, 1999-2000**

State	Apr-Jun Milk Cows		Apr-Jun Milk Production		Change from 1999
	1999	2000	1999	2000	
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
Alabama	27	25	100	92	-8.0
Arkansas	42	42	138	142	2.9
California	1,460	1,514	7,743	8,196	5.9
Georgia	90	88	392	384	-2.0
Idaho	314	344	1,585	1,813	14.4
Kentucky	133	133	431	444	3.0
Louisiana	61	59	192	189	-1.6
Michigan	302	291	1,406	1,382	-1.7
Minnesota	545	538	2,466	2,466	0.0
Mississippi	38	36	149	146	-2.0
New York	701	692	3,121	3,078	-1.4
Pennsylvania	615	616	2,855	2,893	1.3
Tennessee	98	95	373	365	-2.1
Texas	344	350	1,511	1,538	1.8
Wisconsin	1,366	1,350	5,992	5,929	-1.1
US	9,155	9,213	42,029	43,137	2.6

Crop Record Highs and Lows ¹

Crop	Date Series Began	Planted Acres				Harvested Acres			
		High		Low		High		Low	
		Year	Acres	Year	Acres	Year	Acres	Year	Acres
		1,000		1,000		1,000		1,000	
Cotton, All	1866	1930	4,163	1983	687	1930	4,142	1983	675
Cottonseed	1866	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Corn, for Grain	1866	1939	3,254	1983	100	1921	3,237	1983	55
Grain Sorghum ²	1949	1985	650	1914	7.3	1985	620	1953	3
Wheat	1866	1982	1,100	1939	1	1982	950	1939	1
Soybeans	1924	1979	4,200	1924	45	1979	4,100	1928	11
Rice	1949	1981	340	1949	5	1981	337	1949	5
Hay, All	1909	---	---	---	---	1941	1,030	1909	219
Sweetpotatoes	1869	1934	103	1989	3	1934	103	1989	3
Pecans, All	1919	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Crop	Unit	Yield Per Acre				Production			
		High		Low		High		Low	
		Year	Yield	Year	Yield	Year	Prod. (1,000)	Year	Prod. (1,000)
Cotton, All ³	lbs	1997	901	1866	86	1937	2,692	1866	323
Cottonseed	tons	---	---	---	---	1937	1,177	1866	133
Corn, for Grain	bu	1999	117.0	1866	9.5	1996	60,090	1980	2,464
Grain Sorghum	bu	1999	87.0	1951	13.0	1985	39,680	1951	39
Wheat	bu	1999	50.0	1890	4.0	1982	36,100	1928	13
Soybeans	bu	1992	34.0	1930	6.5	1979	118,900	1930	78
Rice	cwt	1996	60.0	1952	23.3	1994	18,467	1949	135
Hay, All	tons	1992	2.7	1924	.9	1992	2,025	1909	262
Sweetpotatoes	cwt	1994	170.0	1924	29.0	1934	5,212	1989	285
Pecans, All	lbs	—	—	—	---	1963	30,400	1992	700

Crop	Unit	Average Price				Value of Production			
		High		Low		High		Low	
		Year	Dollars	Year	Dollars	Year	Dollars (1,000)	Year	Dollars (1,000)
Cotton, All	lbs	1980	.766	1931	.0616	1994	733,749	1932	40,230
Cottonseed	tons	1983	165.00	1931	9.23	1996	81,039	1932	7,461
Corn, for Grain	bu	1974	3.48	1895	.37	1996	200,277	1980	8,131
Grain Sorghum	bu	1996	2.97	1971	.93	1985	86,502	1951	57
Wheat	bu	1996	4.36	1895	.61	1982	108,300	1914	15
Soybeans	bu	1983	7.85	1932	1.08	1979	757,393	1932	181
Rice	cwt	1973	17.20	1986	3.91	1981	143,562	1949	540
Hay, All	tons	1992	55.00	1932	7.00	1992	111,375	1909	3,118
Sweetpotatoes	cwt	1997	18.50	1896	.73	1998	23,765	1884	1,323
Pecans, All	lbs	1992	1.51	1937	.084	1973	7,260	1920	250

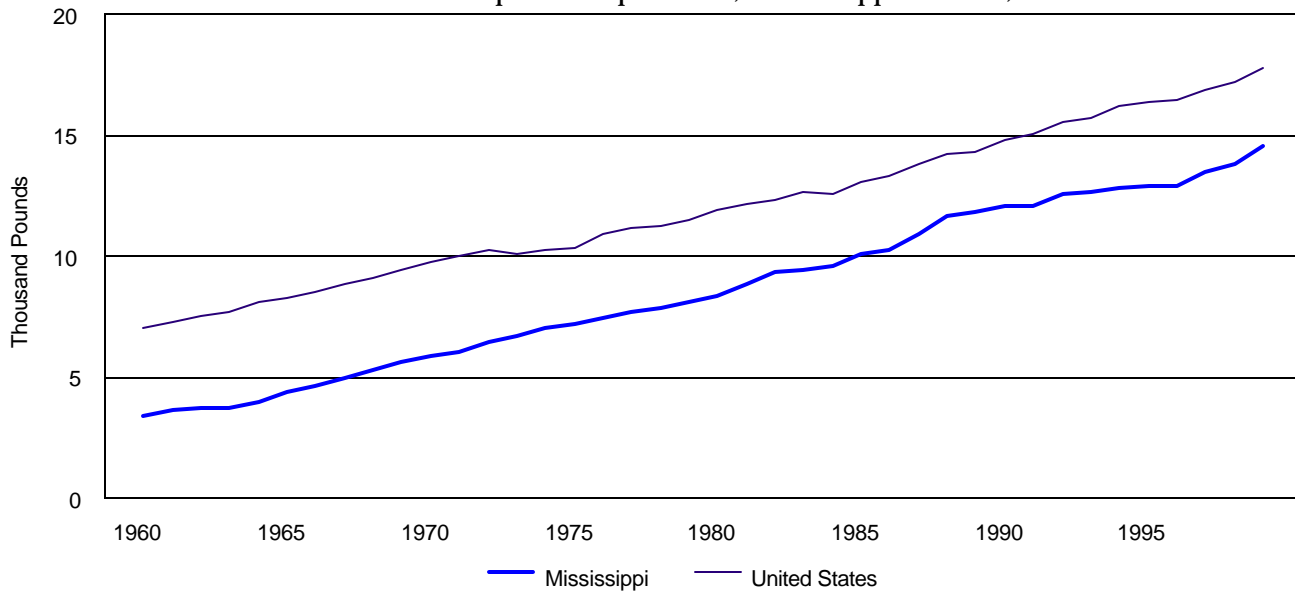
¹ When record is for 2 or more years, the latest year is shown to represent record high or low.² Only planted acreage was published prior to 1949.³ Production in bales.

Irrigated Farms by Acres Irrigated, Selected States and US, 1998

State	Total			1 to 49 acres		
	Farms	Acres in Farms	Acres Irrigated	Farms	Acres in Farms	Acres Irrigated
Alabama	385	267,984	46,811	198	28,228	2,264
Arkansas	5,103	6,204,034	4,043,382	480	21,000	7,080
Florida	6,452	3,861,920	1,613,719	4,346	175,772	62,113
Georgia	2,377	2,032,508	647,749	741	95,376	11,226
Kentucky	953	395,186	25,454	867	256,978	9,489
Louisiana	2,004	2,353,122	920,823	242	51,218	4,544
Mississippi	1,145	2,118,993	1,109,079	105	6,252	551
Missouri	1,606	1,933,639	832,591	305	91,672	5,085
Tennessee	275	169,290	22,741	227	39,231	1,877
Texas	12,019	13,724,059	5,237,584	3,760	649,426	55,195
US Total	182,101	175,944,902	50,028,439	83,101	9,890,166	1,292,952
State	50 to 199			200 to 499		
	Farms	Acres in Farms	Acres Irrigated	Farms	Acres in Farms	Acres Irrigated
Alabama	122	96,993	12,541	45	82,292	14,360
Arkansas	776	355,568	99,116	920	640,858	306,603
Florida	1,099	495,588	110,511	453	549,338	144,249
Georgia	747	358,360	78,798	542	55,910	168,521
Kentucky	63	(D)	(D)	14	26,099	4,365
Louisiana	399	203,446	49,973	711	746,700	236,737
Mississippi	96	68,970	10,631	273	311,496	96,182
Missouri	340	293,911	40,336	395	419,390	126,938
Tennessee	24	55,396	3,075	8	19,596	3,014
Texas	2,213	1,912,868	247,702	2,419	3,149,578	837,006
US Total	42,264	29,465,623	4,611,394	27,492	39,305,412	8,757,757
State	500 to 999			1,000 or more acres		
	Farms	Acres in Farms	Acres Irrigated	Farms	Acres in Farms	Acres Irrigated
Alabama	12	37,686	7,231	8	22,785	10,415
Arkansas	1,429	1,488,367	1,012,578	1,498	3,698,241	2,618,005
Florida	256	265,249	171,195	298	2,375,973	1,125,651
Georgia	198	420,873	130,744	149	601,989	258,460
Kentucky	8	39,197	5,419	1	(D)	(D)
Louisiana	463	712,956	314,995	189	638,802	314,574
Mississippi	326	525,708	229,445	345	1,206,567	772,270
Missouri	285	468,317	194,586	281	660,349	465,646
Tennessee	12	35,007	8,174	4	20,060	6,601
Texas	2,051	2,781,693	1,414,677	1,576	5,230,494	2,683,004
US Total	17,246	34,290,945	11,973,745	11,998	62,922,756	23,392,591

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.

Milk Produced per Cow per Year, Mississippi and US, 1960 - 1999



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UTO
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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